

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#12/D
11-5-02
R. [Signature]

In re Patent Application of

OLIVA

Serial No. 09/497,552

Filed: February 3, 2000



Atty. Ref.: 3572-15

Group: 2873

Examiner: E. Lester

For: OPTICAL DEVICE, LENS AND OPTICAL ELEMENT FOR FOCUSING A LASER BEAM AND APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ASSEMBLING THE OPTICAL DEVICE

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

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Responsive to the Official Action dated July 31, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 32 as follows:

32. {ONCE AMENDED} Optical device for focusing a laser beam, said device comprising a single optical element upon which the laser beam is directed, said single optical element comprising:

DI a focusing lens; and

 first means exteriorly surrounding an outer edge of the focusing lens, adapted to separate a central portion of the laser beam from a surrounding portion of the laser beam;

 wherein the entire central portion of the laser beam collected by the lens is focused.